

# Giants and Athletics Evenly Matched For the Championship

## McGraw's Pitching Staff Has Shade on Connie Mack's

Philadelphia's Hitters Must Rally 'Round Chief Bender and Eddie Plank if the Athletics Are to Win—Past Performances Mean Little or Nothing in the Short Series For the World's Title.

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.—Viewed from all angles the Giants and Athletics are of equal strength for the world's championship series.

It is with no little difficulty that we restrain ourselves from immediately picking the New York Giants to defeat the Philadelphia Athletics, having become so accustomed to picking the Giants to defeat anybody in these world's series that it is really a habit, and hard to leave off on short notice. We have decided not to publicly pick them this season so as not to embarrass them. Neither do we pick the Athletics, which should be very encouraging to the Athletics. We stand on neutral territory and let nature take its course.

There is really only one good way of determining the winner of the coming season, and that is to toss a coin—preferably such a coin, if one be a New Yorker, as is used by the national commission in deciding that the first game of the series shall be played in New York, and which always comes heads or tails as the case may be. The coin is useless—at least our hope is that way.

The situation, as we view it, passes up to those authorities, Mathewson and Marquard, who will be the men pitching, with Tesreau and Demaree as an advisory committee.

Only in his pitching department does McGraw seem to hold an advantage over Connie Mack, whose wonderful hitting team must rally around the veteran frames of big chief Bender and Eddie Plank. If Mathewson and Marquard can hold the slugs of the White Elephants—and we have a sneaking notion that Mathewson and Marquard will be the men depended upon to do most of the holding—the Giants have a great chance.

True, Bob Shawkey or Carroll Brown, or even Houck, the carry-over of the Mack moundmen, might look up as the Bedient of the series if the stars begin to fade, but the chances are that if the lean Chippewa falls to stop the Giants, it is a pretty good bet no youngster is going to do it—not in that particular series.

The wonderful Bender and the more wonderful Plank will be said to be through, but that has been said of them so often, that it is always to be doubted until they pass forever from the big leagues. The same thing has been said of Christy Mathewson, and yet today the big blonde master of the fadeaway is the chief hope of the Giants in the coming battle.

It is believed that McGraw will open with Mathewson. Twice before "Big Six" opened against the Athletics and defeated them. Last year McGraw started with Tesreau, and Tesreau was defeated, so it is likely the Giant boss will string with his veteran hurler to put over the opening punch. That Tesreau will be used in the series there is no doubt, and it seems more likely that McGraw will also try Demaree, unless things break for him so that he de-

clines it best to stick to his big three. Figures may not lie, but in that is the case, truth has mighty little standing on the island of Manhattan in connection with the series, because the New York fans have made the Giants even money in all betting, and favorite in some, when there is scarcely an angle of the dope that gives the big town boys a shade on the Mackmen save in the pitching department. In other words, the New Yorkers are favoring the Giants not because of the figures, but in spite of them.

Perhaps that is the best way. It has been demonstrated time and again that past performances mean little or nothing when it comes to a world's series. The weakest hitter on a team may turn out to be the slugger of the series, while the mightiest waller may be a joke. The figures are proverbially fickle, and perhaps it is fortunate for the Giants that this is so.

Whether the Athletics will approach their season's showing in the brief series that determines the world's championship is another question. They may show one of those startling reversals of form that sometimes overtakes the best teams, and be outplayed in every department from start to finish. Then again they may win so easily as to make a joke of the series.

That's what makes baseball—the possibilities of the game. It is admittedly much faster in team base running than the Athletics, but here again the figures would be deceptive as applied to a short series, because the base running availed the big town boys little in 1911. They did not get on the bases often enough to display their speed, and therefore it was a useless asset.

For many weeks was the same old story with the Giants—no hitting. The inexplicable slump lasted longer than any similar slump in the history of this particular club. A batting slump is a curious thing, however. It passes away as suddenly as it strikes, and by the time the world's series opens the Giants may have returned to their batting stride.

RAIN STOPS RACING ON COLUMBUS TRACK  
Columbus, O., Oct. 2.—Weather was so unsatisfactory for racing that the program offered by the Columbus Grand Circuit association did not approach completion. Two pacing races started on Wednesday were finished Thursday, and two heats of the Buckeye \$5,000 trotting stake were decided. A heavy wind swept the track all afternoon and after the second heat of the stake event a shower made the track unsafe. There will be four races today and three Saturday.

## Men Who Will Fight For the World's Championship

Robert Shawkey, the Sensational Young Pitcher of the Athletics



(By Sloane Gordon)

THERE are a lot of boys with funny names "horneing" into fast company nowadays. A whole lot of them, with and without funny names, "horne" right out again, too. These few remarks are introductory in their nature by way of mentioning Robert Shawkey, the pitcher of the Athletics. Don't try that name over on your mouth organ. It is liable to break itself up endeavoring to make good.

Shawkey only joined the Athletics this year, but he has been pitching all over the league ever since. He is a favorite of the fans, and he has a great deal of success. There is little doubt but that he will get his chance in the world's series, and you might as well have the facts in his case on your tongue tip so you won't lose an argument to your neighbor if he turns out to be the hero.

Robert first saw himself in a big league uniform when he went south with the Athletics for spring practice in 1911 and took a flash at himself in the club box. He liked the looks. He wore it during the rehearsal, but before "Connie" decided that Shawkey had not grown up quite enough to fit it yet and turned him back to Baltimore for "Jack" Dunn to put in a little seasoning. Mr. Dunn is one of Mr. McGillicuddy's favorite

seasoners, as has been evidenced by this series of biographies. Shawkey did so well for Baltimore that Mr. Dunn, being short of pitchers of the Shawkey style, acquired the notion of working him most every day unless it rained or something and there was no ball game.

"Till season that guy right for Mack," said Mr. Dunn with great frequency as he sent Shawkey to the box again. It is liable to break itself up endeavoring to make good. Shawkey made with his pitching in Baltimore that Mac sent for him in the middle of last July and decided to give him a trial along the big league lines. He put the old uniform on him and it seemed to fit Shawkey perfectly now. But he kept him on the bench for a week.

"When is my vacation up?" Shawkey inquired from Mack at the end of the week. "You're not on a vacation," answered "Connie" like one to me," replied Shawkey. If I had been with the Athletics I would have worked three or four games in this time. "Well give you a chance tomorrow," suggested Mack. Shawkey got his chance and made good. In fact, he did a good deal this summer toward holding the Athletics up in the race when they were

## Spend Your Money For Coal Is Best Bet on Big Series

Vicious Attack of the Athletics Will Be Even Greater than That Which Won From the Giants in 1911. Best Pitching in Big League Ball Affords the Giants a Strong Defence.

(By E. W. Cochrane.)

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 2.—Judging from all the expert dope being handed out by close students of attack and defence of the competitors in the world's series, the best bet to make on the big noise next week is to spend your money for winter coal.

Vicious attack against wonderful defence is the combination to be figured out and the man who can pick a winner from this sort of a combination has the baseball expert tied to a post and groping blindly for a chance to escape.

In many cases of this kind the strong attack has been better than the impregnable defence, although we are not going to venture an opinion that this will occur in the Giant-Athletics series. However, a team with a strong attack and a stronger defence than attack, as a usual thing.

Following a slight lull in the bling-bang stuff during which they clinched the American league contention, the Athletics showed signs of resuming the terrific cannonading which sent them to the front of the American league procession in July with leaps and bounds and made world's series kake a certain revenue. This club has the greatest array of swat talent in either league and the attack will be the stiffest the Giant hurlers have faced during the 1912 campaign. Even greater, in fact, than that which beat the same Giants in the 1911 world's series.

Along with this vicious attack, the Athletics have a \$100,000 infield, a good outfield, Bender, Plank and other good pitching material for the defence. Therefore, the latter will not be what might be termed a weak point of their half of the battle.

Giants' Power in Hurling. Just opposite with the Giants. They have possibly the greatest defence in either league, made so by the best pitching staff in baseball today. Mathewson, Marquard, Demaree and

Tesreau will be depended upon to win the series as far as the firing line is concerned. Other Giant hurlers will be used only in emergencies. The great fielding of the club is also a point in its favor.

The attack, however, is much weaker than that of the enemy. The Giants have been in the throes of a batting slump since early August and have shown no sign of improvement. The excellent chucking has carried them along safely to a third straight pennant.

How to Figure It. Therefore we are confronted with this question when dishing the probable winner of the world's series: Is the pitching staff of the Giants able to stop the terrific cannonading of the Mackmen sufficiently to make it possible for the weaker attack of the Giants to pile up enough runs on Athletics' pitching, to win the series? Solve this problem and you can win a bet on the big reel just ahead.

## PHOENIX GUN CLUB TO SHOOT AT FAIR

Phoenix, Ariz., Oct. 2.—Arrangements have been completed for a shoot to be held under the auspices of the Phoenix Gun club the forenoon of November 3 and 4, the first two days of the state fair, in front of the grand stand at the fair grounds. Mr. and Mrs. Ad Tupperwein and a number of other famous shooters will participate. Valuable trophies have been offered by the manufacturers of arms and ammunition. The annual shoot of the Arizona Sportsmen's association will be held at Tucson October 25, 27 and 28, and before the fair there will be another shoot at Ray.

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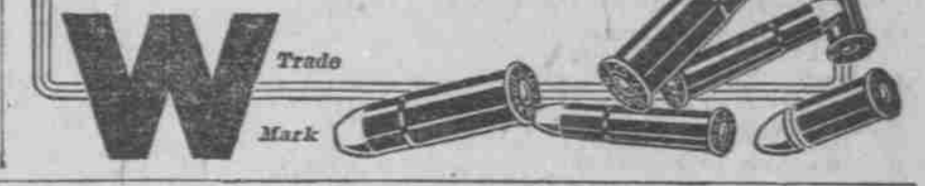
## Who Will Win the World's Championship?

THE HERALD has a hunch but wishes to print the opinions of the fans. There is a reason for each opinion. It is this reason that The Herald sporting editor wishes. Send in your choice for world's champions and the why and the how it will appear on the sport page of The Greater Sunday Herald. A paragraph will be enough so everyone will have a chance. Send them in with your name attached and see your opinion in print.

P. S.—The Herald will serve the world series hot off the bat in front of The Herald building, play by play for its friends, the fans.

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## Backstops of the Giants and Athletics Are Equals

Two of the New Yorkers Are Superior in Hitting Ability, but Connie Mack's Men Have Other Advantages that Cause Them to Even Up on General Playing Ability—The Records of the Pitchers and Catchers Show Good Work.

NEW YORK, Oct. 2.—The catchers of the New York Giants and Philadelphia Athletics will play an important part in the coming battle for the world's championship in baseball, and the managers of the rival clubs are fortunate in having dependable players for the position behind the plate. Connie Mack has Schang, Lapp and Thomas to use as his judgment dictates, and McGraw, in Meyers, McLean and Wilson, has an imposing squad of catchers who viewed in a broad manner suffer little, if any, when behind the plate. Philadelphia wears of the mitt and mask.

Meyers and Schang appear to have first call for the position with McLean and Lapp second choice and Wilson and Thomas as third string catchers. Meyers and Schang will be called upon to do the brunt of the work, barring illness or accident, and therefore, to be considered in comparison of the catching strength of the two clubs. From an offensive standpoint, Meyers is the better player of the two, due to his ability as a batter. The big Indian has an unofficial record of .317 for 115 games this season, as against .259 for Schang in 75 games. On the bases the Philadelphia backstop is a faster man, but this asset is more or less nullified by the fact that Meyers gets to the initial bag more frequently than his chief rival in the world's series. He is accurate and fast in their throwing to the bases, but the Athletic youngster has a margin over Meyers in this respect for he shoots to second with less apparent exertion and more speed.

McLean bats well. Lapp has taken the ascendancy during the past season, and judging from present indications will be Connie Mack's choice for the stand behind the home plate. He will have a formidable opponent in McLean, who joined the Giants by the way of the trade route from St. Louis after the mid season mark had been passed. As in the case of Meyers and Schang, the St. Louis catcher has a batting average of .365, against Lapp's .275. The records show that the former figures are all the more impressive when both catchers have worked in about the same number of games. As an offset, the Philadelphia catcher has proved to be deadly in throwing base stealers out at second base, and in this respect outranks the veteran who was traded into a world's series not for gold after his new teammates had secured a commanding lead in the season's play.

Thomas Outranks Wilson. Ira Thomas of the Mack veterans, in point of experience at least outranks Wilson easily, but the old adage of youth vs. age may easily be applied to the pair. Thomas is a catcher who rises to the emergency and as a tactician has few equals. As far as hitting is concerned, he is far superior to the slighter fellow. The electrician steadily and may surprise many in his respect in case he has an opportunity to break into the series at a critical period. Once on the base lines he will have an excellent chance to pick up Thomas' advantage with the bat, for he is fast considered from the standpoint of a catcher.

The Catchers' Records. Records of catchers for the two clubs this season follow:

	AB.	R.	B.	SH.	PO.
Schang	75	20	29	5	359
Lapp	74	21	21	4	319
Thomas	22	5	3	14	126

	M.	B.	R.	SH.	PO.
Meyers	115	35	37	11	60
McLean	71	21	8	6	0
Wilson	16	6	2	1	179

	G.	W.	L.	H.	P.
Bender	47	15	7	1	307
Plank	17	10	12	1	310
Shawkey	14	6	3	7	260
Brown	48	18	11	2	221
Rush	29	10	10	1	211
Houck	38	15	25	11	789
Demaree	29	14	3	15	824
Marquard	29	10	10	2	688
Matheron	29	24	11	29	686
Tesreau	29	21	13	21	818
Proctor	33	3	19	16	474
Crandall	22	2	2	8	490

Opinions Are Divided. Expression of opinion on the part of managers and players of other clubs are being heard here, gathered in New York in the advance guard for the opening game next Tuesday. Favoring the Athletics are Frank Chance, Napolean Lajoie, Clarke Griffith and umpire Billy Evans. Some of those who are numbering the Giants as probable winners are George Stallings, Johnny Evers, Fred Clarke and Ty Cobb. Hughey Jennings and Bill Dahlen have

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